

**AGENDA ITEM V C**

**REQUEST FOR REAUTHORIZATION OF A  
PREVIOUSLY APPROVED CENTER**

**UNIVERSITY OF NEW ORLEANS**

**PONTCHARTRAIN INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES**

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##### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

At its meeting of June, 2001, the Board of Regents acted as follows:

**The Board of Regents grants approval for the proposed Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Sciences at the University of New Orleans for a five-year period. By July 1, 2004, the University shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education a report updating activities of the Institute, including a summary of the operational budgets for FYs 2001-2004 and proposed budgets for FYs 2004-2006.**

Subsequently, in August, 2004, the Regents approved:

**The Board of Regents receives the AY 2003-04 Progress Report from University of New Orleans Relative to Operations of the Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Sciences. By July 1, 2006, the University of New Orleans shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education a request for continued approval of this Institute. If this request is not forthcoming by this date, the Board of Regents shall re-examine the need for this Institute.**

On October 9, 2006, the LSU System submitted the University's request for an additional five-year span of approval.

##### **STAFF SUMMARY**

Rather than present a written summation of the University's request, the staff instead has decided to honor UNO's request to make an oral and visual presentation to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee which will explain their rationale for Institute continuance.

##### **STAFF ANALYSIS**

The Pontchartrain Institute at UNO has been highly visible and successful. Over the past five years, the Institute has received and executed 51 national grants and contracts with an overall value of approximately 4.5 million; 33 state grants and contract with an overall value of 1.8 million; and 16 private grants and contract with an overall value of .75 million. Currently pending are multiple grants and contracts with a projected future five-year value of 17 million.

Projected future five-year costs are around 4 million. Given the Institute's past history of successful contract/grant application, the staff is confident that the Institute will continue to be an academically and scientifically profitable venture for both the University and the State of Louisiana.

#### ***STAFF RECOMMENDATION***

***The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee grant continued approval for the Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Sciences at the University of New Orleans for a five-year period. By August 1, 2009, the University shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education a report updating activities of the Institute, including a summary of the operational budgets for FYs 2006-2009 and proposed budgets for FYs 2009-2011.***